

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AID-20

CEA-02 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 DRC-01 /217 W

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R 282007Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8953

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 17158

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UK, GW

SUBJECT: SCHEEL'S VISIT TO LONDON

BEGIN SUMMARY: ACCORDING GERMANS, SCHEEL'S VISIT TO LONDON PRODUCED NO SURPRISES. MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED WERE U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS, EUROPEAN DEFENSE, EC ISSUES AND MIDEAST OIL. END SUMMARY

1. GENERAL. FONOFF SOURCES TOLD EMBOFF THAT SCHEEL'S VISIT TO LONDON TOOK PLACE IN A VERY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE COMMENSURATE WITH EXCELLENT STATE OF CURRENT ANGLO-CONFIDENTIAL

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GERMAN RELATIONS. BESIDES LENGTHY TALKS WITH FONMIN

DOUGLAS-HOME, EUROPEAN MINISTER DAVIES, AND FONOFF
OFFICIALS ROYAL, BRIMLOW AND KILLICK, SCHEEL HAD
SEPARATE BRIEF TALKS WITH PM HEATH AND LIBERAL PARTY
LEADER JEREMY THORPE. VISIT STARTED ON CURIOUS NOTE
WHEN OFFICIAL AWAITING PARTY AT LONDON AIRPORT WAS
INFORMED THAT LUFTHANSA AIRCRAFT DIVERTED TO GATWICK BY
FOG CONTAINED
"IMPOSTOR CLAIMING TO BE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER."

2. U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS. BOTH SCHEEL AND DOUGLAS-
HOME AGREED THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO FINALIZE
U.S./EC AND NATO DECLARATIONS AT THE TIME OF DEC NATO
MINISTERIAL. THE TWO MINISTERS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE
EUROPEANS HAD FAILED SUFFICIENTLY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
THE OPPORTUNITIES INHERENT IN THE U.S. INITIATIVE TO
REINVIGORATE THE ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. THERE WAS
AGREEMENT THAT THE U.S. AND EUROPE SHOULD BUILD ON THE
DECLARATIONS FOLLOWING THEIR SIGNATURE. SCHEEL VOICED
THE VIEW THAT THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS WITH
STOESSEL MIGHT SERVE AS A MODEL FOR FUTURE.

3. EUROPEAN DEFENSE. SCHEEL EMPHASIZED THE TOP PRIORITY
AND SENSE OF URGENCY BONN ATTACHED TO MOVING VIGOROUSLY
FORWARD TOWARD 1980 GOAL OF EUROPEAN UNION. HE SAID IT
WOULD BE NECESSARY IN DUE TIME TO CONSIDER HOW DEFENSE
WOULD FIT INTO EUROPEAN UNION, ADDING, FOR PRACTICAL
REASONS, THAT THE WEU COULD NOT RPT NOT SERVE AS THE
BASIS FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE COOPERATION. SCHEEL SAID THE
GERMANS PREFERRED TO CONCENTRATE ON THE EUROGROUP; HE
SAID HIS IMPRESSION
IS THAT THE FRENCH ARE STILL THINKING THIS MATTER OVER.
IN REPLY, DOUGLAS-HOME STRONGLY WELCOMED THE NEW FRENCH
READINESS TO DISCUSS EUROPEAN DEFENSE MATTERS, BUT
AGREED THAT "THE FRENCH CONTRADICTION" HAD NOT YET
ENDED. DOUGLAS-HOME AGREED WITH THE FRG VIEW ON THE
RELATIVE ADVANTAGE AND USES OF THE WEU AND EUROGROUP.
HE SAID LONDON, BONN AND OTHER EUROPEAN ALLIES "WOULD
HAVE TO CHAT THE FRENCH UP" A GOOD DEAL MORE TO BRING

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 17158

PARIS AROUND. COMMENT. ALL OF THIS TENDS TO CONFIRM
COMMENT IN PARA 3 OF PARIS 30341, WHICH REPORTED ON
DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER'S NOV 22 SPEECH TO WEU ASSEMBLY.
END COMMENT.

4. EC ISSUES. DAVIES AND DOUGLAS-HOME EMPHASIZED THE
IMPORTANCE OF REACHING SOME CONCRETE RESULTS ON EC
ISSUES TO SHOW TO COMMONS AND THE BRITISH PUBLIC BEFORE
THE END OF THE YEAR. AS EXPECTED, THE BRITISH
LAID A GOOD DEAL OF EMPHASIS ON THE REGIONAL FUND.
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SCHEEL SAID HE THOUGHT THE NUMBER OF REGIONS TO BE

INCLUDED, PURSUANT TO COMMISSION PROPOSALS, SHOULD BE REDUCED TO INSURE THAT ONLY THE MOST NEEDY REGIONS WOULD BE ASSISTED. HE IMPLIED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE BEST APPROACH, IN ORDER TO AVOID DISSIPATING LIMITED RESOURCES, EVEN IF GERMANS INITIALLY WERE TO GET LITTLE OR NOTHING FROM THE REGIONAL FUND. THERE WAS NO CONCRETE DISCUSSION ON THE SIZE OF THE FUND. ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION, SCHEEL SAID THE NINE SHOULD AIM AT MOVING BEYOND CONSOLIDATION TOWARD NEW STEPS BUT THIS COULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN THE THREE EC PARTNERS WOULD RETURN TO THE SNAKE. FINALLY, SCHEEL REAFFIRMED THE GERMAN POSITION ON SOCIAL POLICY, AS EMBODIED IN PARIS EC SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE.

5. MIDEAST OIL. DOUGLAS-HOME SAID THE BRITISH CONSIDERED THEIR OWN OIL SUPPLY SITUATION TO BE "VERY INSECURE"; HE SAID THE BRITISH WERE ALSO AFFECTED BY ARAB PRESSURES EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE CONSIDERED BY THE ARABS TO BE A "FAVORED COUNTRY." SCHEEL SAID IT WAS NECESSARY TO EMPHASIZE TO THE ARABS THAT THE COMMUNITY IN EUROPE COULD NOT BE DIVIDED FROM THE OUTSIDE.
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